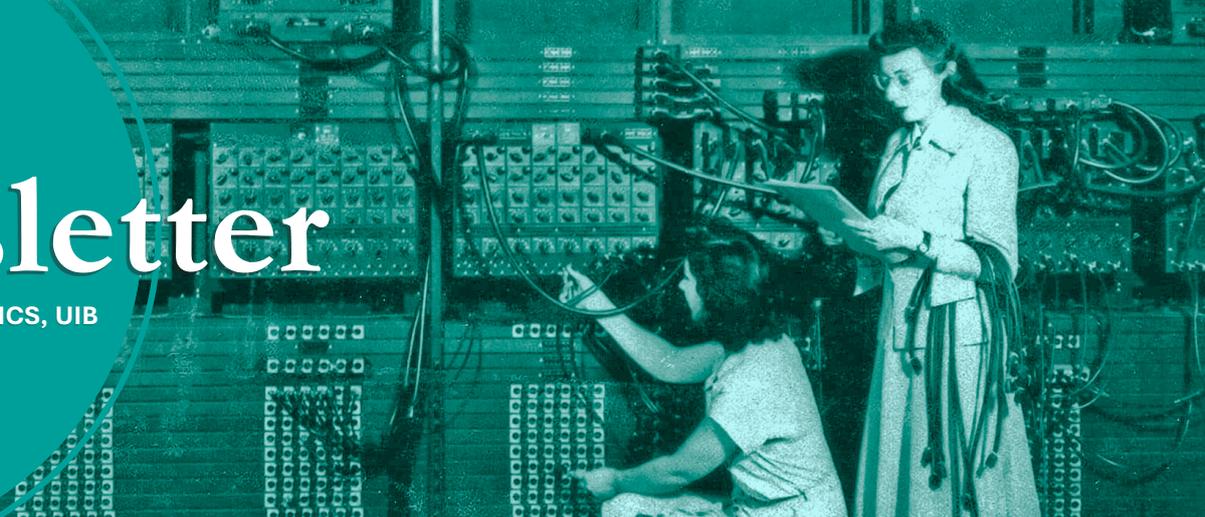


Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB
No.12/2022, 17.06.2022



Editor-in-chief: Inge Jonassen. Editor: Randi Heggernes Eilertsen.
Contributions or comments to the newsletter are very welcome.
Old newsletters can be found [here](#).

Dear Colleagues,

Dear colleagues,

As you have probably seen, the funding for fundamental research through the Research Council of Norway has been cut which will have severe consequences including no FRIPRO calls (funding researcher-initiated curiosity driven projects) in 2023.

This will hurt Norwegian research in general and especially young researchers. For our department, FRIPRO is one of our major sources of funding, and we will struggle to maintain the level of activity through this period. I would very much encourage you to explore other funding opportunities, including other calls from the Research Council of Norway, the European Commission, and others. If you had planned to submit a FRIPRO proposal next year, please consider applying to the ERC instead. Stefanie and I are

eager to give you advice and help in identifying relevant calls – and how to go about to develop competitive proposals.

I would like to remind everybody to register your holiday days. Unused holidays turn up in our budgets with a negative sign (a kind of “debt” to each employee), which causes administrative and budgeting challenges. I just registered my summer holidays, very easily (really!) using the DFØ app’s “Fraværssøknad” option. Please take a couple of minutes and do this too!

I wish you all a very nice weekend!

Inge



The Dean's Blog - Gunn Mangerud



[The Dean's blog](#) aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

Her latest postings:

- [“Hvor lang er en lang linje?”](#)
- [“Hvilke prioriteringer har denne regjeringen for norsk forskning?”](#)

Honorary doctorates



Congratulations to our colleague Prof. Helwig Hauser, who last week received an Honorary Doctorate at the University of Magdeburg!



Congratulations to our colleague Prof. Mike Fellows, who earlier this month received the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa from Université Paris-Dauphine-PSL!

They grow up so fast...

Although a lot of them are still waiting for the results of their last exams, the students who are finishing their Bachelors and Masters degrees got a chance to celebrate this Wednesday. Look at them with their grown-up outfits, d'awwwwww, we'll miss them so much!

Fig. 1. The Master's ceremony.

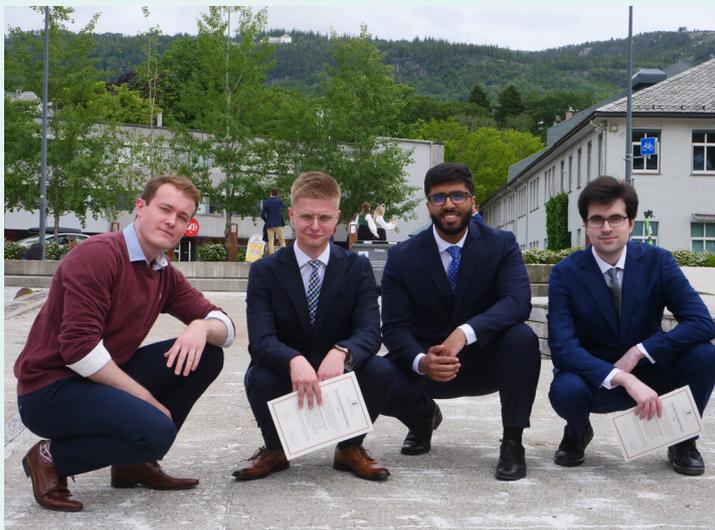


Fig. 2. Our Bachelor's graduates being represented in style.



Fig. 3. Some Master's graduates posing for the paparazzi.



GREETINGS FROM The International Artificial Intelligence in Bergen Research School

The International Artificial Intelligence in Bergen Research School was held from 7-11 June 2022.

Here is the gang of young AI academics looking happy after conquering Mount Fløyen.

Current Issues

Administration trip 20-22 June

In these times of financial uncertainty in academia, it's important to maintain group cohesiveness.

This is why from Monday afternoon until Wednesday afternoon, the administration will be away for an innocent non-heist-based team building trip. This means that most of the administration will have a very limited ability to answer inquiries. Emails might be answered, but due to the difficulty of operating a smartphone while wearing gloves, it might take a while before you get a response.

Marta and Stefanie will still be in the office providing intel and operating the coffee machine.

[Event] Opportunities for career outside academia



Date: 23 June 2022. Registration by 20 June.

“PhD candidates are invited to a day of insight into industry competence needs and industrial research projects, by cluster coordinators and companies. The candidates will meet industry leaders within Media, Energy, Seafood, Ocean Technologies, Fintech, Propotech, health and public sector.”

[Read more and register here.](#)



Research Stay with the Alan Turing Institute

The Alan Turing Institute is the national institute for data science and artificial intelligence, with headquarters at the British Library.

We at NORA are collaborating with the Alan Turing Institute, UK to support two researchers from Norway to stay for six months at the institute every year under the Enrichment Scheme offered by the Alan Turing Institute. This research exchange is with the objective of giving Norwegian researchers exposure to a world class AI environment and improve collaboration between the UK and Norway.

This exchange is for (early to mid stage) PhDs with a working contract at one of the NORA partners at the time of the exchange. NORA would financially support your stay up to 50,000 NOK per student during the enrichment scheme. In addition NORA would also be covering the cost towards your position at the Turing Institute, which will be directly paid to the Turing Institute.

The application will pass two steps: First, the NORA office will shortlist your application, then Alan Turing Institute will confirm your participation.

[Read more and submit your application here.](#)

Last date to submit your application: 30 June 2022



Rent a Cabin!

UiB owns four cabins that can be rented by employees. However, due to high demand, only a lucky few are selected in a raffle twice a year.

If you want to rent a cabin this autumn, submit an application [here](#) before 1 July.

(The website unfortunately only has information in Norwegian because they assume only Norwegians enjoy spending a weekend getting lost in the mountains and losing a toe to frostbite. This is your chance to prove them wrong.)

Invitation: Scientists needed for survey

Hello,

My name is Inghild Tveit, and I study library- and information science at OsloMet. I'm working on a master's thesis where I research the use of and opinions on illegally downloaded scientific literature among scientists in Norway. More specifically, it's about Sci-Hub: a website that provides free access to a significant amount of scientific literature, with no regard for publishers or copyright laws. I'm interested to see if Sci-Hub is a known phenomenon in this country – if people use it or not, why they choose to use it (or why they choose not to), and what they think about this kind of service.

In order to research this, I've created a survey that I hope you'll have the time to participate in. The survey consists of up to 14 questions and takes less than 5 minutes to complete. It is entirely anonymous. You don't need any prior knowledge of Sci-Hub in order to answer.

[You can find the survey here.](#) Thank you in advance for your time.

Best regards, Inghild Tveit



Editor's illustration:
Average scientist

PhD updates



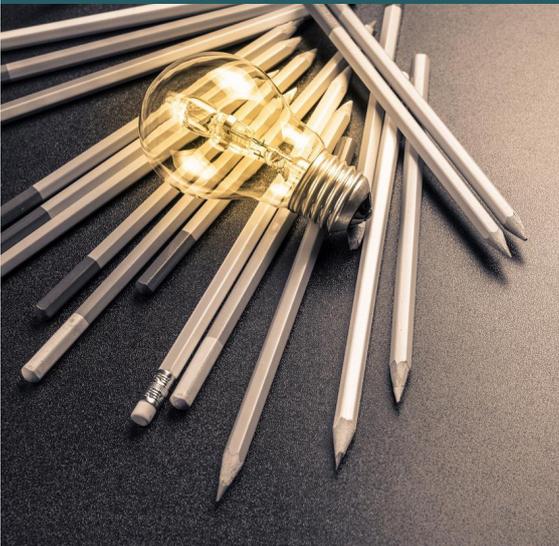
PhD Defence: Adnan Muhammad Niazi

Adnan Muhammad Niazi Mohit will be defending his thesis “Computational methods for studying RNA caps and poly(A)-tails at single-molecule resolution with Nanopore sequencing” on the 24th of June at 10:15 in Høyteknologisenteret, Stort auditorium.

[Read the announcement here.](#)

Open for all.

Scientific writing course for PhD candidates



The Department of Informatics offers a scientific writing course for PhD candidates enrolled in the department’s PhD program.

This course targets the writing process of an article aimed at a peer-reviewed journal. Maybe you are about to start a new writing process, or maybe you would like to fully revise a draft you already have? Each week, we will use a whole day for lectures, discussions, writing and feedback. The foundational lectures during week 1 will cover issues like cutting clutter, using active voice, and planning structure. We will also discuss how to form the concrete research questions that your article will focus on. During the rest of the course, we will use a recurring process to develop the different sections. This process will include discussions, brainstorming, planning, writing, and editing. We will also develop forums for peer-to-peer reflection and collaboration. Over the 6 weeks,

you will develop as independent writers. You will also develop your skills in critical thinking, peer-review, and communication. Most importantly, you will put a writing process into action that you can apply (and adapt) to future writing projects.

[See full schedule and read more here.](#) Sign up before **15.08.2022**.



Invitation: Norwegian Bioinformatics Days 2022

Dear everyone,

We invite you to present talks and posters at Norwegian Bioinformatics Days 2022 taking place September 28-30, 2022, at Sundvolden Hotel (~one hour drive from Oslo).

To submit an abstract for an oral presentation and/or poster and for more information, [use this link](#).

Abstract submission deadline: **31 July 2022**

[Visit the website](#) and sign up for updates if you haven't yet.

Registration coming soon.

Please help us spread the word in your networks.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Sundvolden in person!

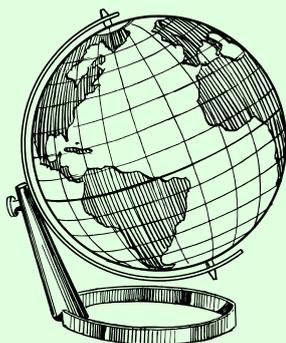
- The NBD Organizing team



International Newsletter

UiB has a newsletter made especially for internationals, where you can find useful tips and news about upcoming events.

If you have moved to Bergen from a different country, we highly recommend subscribing to the newsletter [here](#).



NORA Research School

If you are a PhD student within the field of AI from a NORA-partner institution (that includes us), we encourage you to become a member of the [NORA Research School](#).

NORA is in the process of establishing re-research school for PhD students at our partner institutions. However, membership in NORA's Research School is already open to any PhD student from a NORA partner institution with a project related to artificial intelligence, machine learning and/or robotics.

You can be a member of several research schools simultaneously, and there are no obligations, costs or commitments to being a member. Through membership in NORA Research School you will be the first to receive relevant information about and the opportunity to participate in courses, lectures and events.



“National Science Week (Forskningsdagene) takes place at the end of September every year. The festival presents a superb opportunity to showcase research in general and its impact on society.

[Read more and see available opportunities here.](#)

Invitation: Collegial Teaching and Learning in STEM Education

“Collegial Teaching and Learning in STEM Education is an elective teaching and learning course in higher education offered by bioCEED to all MN-UiB and UNIS¹ staff².

The course is given in English and requires no previous pedagogical training and welcomes both experienced and more novice teachers and staff. On completion of the course, you will receive a diploma that states the content and extent of the course (5 ECTS), which corresponds to three weeks full-time work.

This course will count as part of the basic pedagogical competence requirement at UiB/ UNIS.“

[Read more.](#)



FAIR Data Management in Life Sciences

Learn key concepts about how to make life sciences data Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable for your research management.

14-16 June 2022 | Virtual

Organised by: ELIXIR-NORWAY
In collaboration with: **BioMedData**



[\(Read more about the course\)](#)

Vacant positions

Senior Engineer/Chief Engineer (DevOps system administrator)

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 19.06.2022

PhD Research Fellow in Informatics - Knowledge Representation and Machine Learning

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 20.06.2022

Researcher in Informatics - Formalization of Algorithms in Proof Assistants

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 30.06.2022

PhD Research Fellow in Informatics: Visual Data Science to Master Complex Simulation Ensembles

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 14.08.2022

Upcoming Funding Opportunities



Enabling technologies: The Research Council is planning to open a [call for Researcher Projects targeting technology development](#) across relevant research areas within enabling technologies.

In addition, there are plans to announce a [call for Collaborative Projects advancing technology development](#) across relevant research areas within enabling technologies, and which are addressing UN SDGs and large societal challenges. In collaborative projects, it is mandatory to actively include non-academic partners (work and budget).

Application deadline: 21 September 2022 (tentative date)



Aurora: “Researchers from Norway may seek support for [funding for short-term visits in France](#) for the purpose of launching and developing new joint research projects.”

Application deadline:
21 September 2022 (tentative date)



Sabbatical: All at least 50%, permanently employed professors and associate professors can apply for a [sabbatical](#) and, if relevant, related travel funds.

Application deadline: 1 October 2022



Åsgard: “Norske og franske forskere og personer som arbeider med innovasjon, kommersialisering og forskningsadministrasjon kan søke om [støtte til et ukelangt opphold i Norge eller Frankrike](#) for å møte forskningsspartnere, besøke forskningssentre eller bedrifter og få informasjon om finansieringsordninger.”

Application deadline: 31 January 2023 (tentative date)



Collaborative projects - notification of an upcoming call: “The purpose of this call is to develop new knowledge and generate research competence needed by society or the business sector to address important societal challenges.”

Application deadline: 15 February 2023 (tentative date)



ERC 2023: The ERC has published tentative application deadlines for the 2023 calls on their [website](#):

- ERC-StG-2023, 25.10.2022
- ERC-SyG-2023, 08.11.2022
- ERC-CoG-2023, 02.02.2023
- ERC-AdG-2023, 23.05.2023

Please contact research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](#) if you have questions with regard to your *planned and ongoing funding applications* as well as *all contractual work related to external funds*! All applications and agreements/contracts need to be approved by the department leadership. In addition, you can have a look at our websites for [research support services](#), where you will also find a list of our services.

CEDAS EVENT 29-30 AUGUST 2022



CEDAS Networking Event 2022

The Center for Data Science (CEDAS) is organizing a networking event, combining scientific sessions on foundational and applied data science with a teaching-related session, discussion groups, and social activities to further facilitate research collaboration among the center's members (and beyond).

The **Center for Data Science (CEDAS)** is organizing a [networking event](#), combining scientific sessions on foundational and applied data science with a teaching-related session, discussion groups, and social activities to further facilitate research collaboration among the center's members (and beyond).

The event will take place between **29-30 August 2022** at Solstrand Hotel & Bad in Os. We are aiming for a two-day meeting with one overnight stay. The number of participants is limited to a maximum of 40 participants. We will inform everyone regarding their participation status shortly after the registration deadline.

Main program: We are currently planning for two scientific sessions and one teaching-related session. We encourage specifically younger researchers (PhD candidates and Postdocs) to contribute to the sessions.

Registration deadline: 24 June 2022

Open Science and Intellectual Property Rights: *How can they better interact? State of the art and reflections*

The European Commission has recently [published a report](#) that “provides a critical analysis of the literature on the relation between OS and IPR protection and how they might live harmoniously, by scoping the statement ‘as open as possible, as closed as necessary’.”

NORBIS activities

NORBIS conference - SAVE THE DATE!

The 8th and last NORBIS conference will be arranged in 2022 at Rosendal Fjordhotell week 43, 24-28 October. More information to come! But for now, save the date!

Summer school: Collaborative scientific software development

Dates: June 20-July 1, 2022. **Location:** University of Bergen. **Organizers:** David Grellscheid, Digital Lab UBB. **Lecturers:** David Grellscheid (UiB), Ivan Girotto (International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy), Ali Farnudi (ENS Lyon, France), Korbinian Bösl (UiB). **Credits:** 3 ECTS. **Evaluation:** Participants are expected to attend all 10 days. In the second half of the summer school, you will work in small groups on a project that you will present on the last day.

Short course description: The aim of this summer school is to give an introduction to topics that go beyond the initial knowledge of reading and writing code. How do you design programs that are modular and reusable by others? How can libraries in different languages be used together? What are tools that can help in documenting and testing code? How can development and releases be managed in group projects with multiple authors and multiple users? In a mixture of talks and many hands-on sessions we'll try to address this next step. In the second half of the workshop, you will work in small groups on designing and writing a new project from scratch, giving you direct experience of having to rely on other people's code. [More information and link to registration here.](#)

Logical modelling of (inter) cellular networks for biotechnology and personalised medicine

Dates: August 15-26, 2022. **Location:** NTNU. **Organizer:** Martin Kuiper. **Lecturers:** Denis Thieffry (ENS, Paris), Martin Kuiper (NTNU), Anna Niarakis (Université Paris-Saclay), Vincent Noël (Institut Curie), Laurence Calzone (Institut Curie), Pablo Rodríguez Mier (U Heidelberg), Aurélien Naldi (INRIA), Åsmund Flobak (NTNU), Astrid Lægreid (NTNU), Rune Nydal (NTNU), Eirini Tsirvouli (NTNU), John Zobolas (UIO). **Credits:** 7,5 ECTS. **Evaluation:** Each student will submit an individual report, in the form of an executable notebook, on which they will be assessed.

Short course description: This course will introduce students to the principles of Boolean mathematical modelling, using a variety of software tools and workflows to build, train and execute logical models for in silico experiments. Logical models of regulatory networks of cell lines or tissue samples can reliably represent these systems, as judged by their stable states and responses to perturbations, for instance simple or combinatorial drug treatments. The process to build such models, optimise their performance and analyse their behaviour involves a variety of tools and approaches that students will learn in a project-based manner. [More information and link to registration here.](#)

Genome sequencing technologies, assembly, variant calling and statistical genomics

Dates: 17-28 October & 1-2 December 2022. **Location:** University of Oslo. **Organizer:** Torbjørn Rognes. **Lecturers:** Arvind Sundaram (Oslo University Hospital), Ave Tooming-Klunderud (UiO), Bastiaan Star (UiO), Gregor Gilfillan (Oslo University Hospital), Ivar Grytten (UiO), Karin Lagesen (Norwegian Veterinary Institute), Milena Pavlovic (UiO), Sigve Nakken (Oslo University Hospital), Thomas Haverkamp (Norwegian Veterinary Institute), Torbjørn Rognes (UiO), Trine B. Rounge (UiO), Ying Sheng (Oslo University Hospital). **Credits:** 10 ECTS. **Evaluation:** There will be a 2-hour written exam, and the project work will be evaluated based on an oral presentation. Both exams have to be passed in the same semester. 80% attendance is required to be allowed to take the exams.

Short course description: The course provides knowledge of sequencing technologies and hands-on experience with the analysis of data from several sequencing platforms and for various applications. The two main applications that will be covered are de novo genome assembly and variant calling (SNPs and structural variants), while other aspects like control of quantity and quality of data will also be included. Furthermore, the course will show how to use statistical genomics to analyse features of annotated genomes. [More information and link to registration here.](#)

Modern methods for analyzing survival and time to event data (IMB9335)

Dates: 5-9 December, 2022. **Location:** University of Oslo. **Organizer:** Morten Valberg. **Lecturers:** Morten Valberg, Håkon K. Gjessing, Ørnulf Borgan, Odd O. Aalen. **Credits:** 4 ECTS. **Evaluation:** The exam will be a home exam in the form of project work. The students should deliver their written project report within a month after the end of the course. The exam paper will be provided in English and should be answered in English.

Short course description: The analysis of survival data and other types of time-to-event data are central in modern medical research and a number of other fields. A large number of methods for analysing time-to-event data have been developed, but many researchers have no knowledge of survival analysis, or they only know the most basic methods. The aim of the course is to give PhD-students and other researchers in biostatistics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, and related fields an up-to-date overview of statistical methodology for analysing time-to-event data. The course is given over five days and computer exercises will be an integrated part of the course. [More information and link to registration here.](#)

